

W. J. BRYAN IS DOMINANT FIGURE AT BALTIMORE CONVENTION AND IMPRESSION GROWS THAT HE MAY RECEIVE NOMINATION

DEMOCRATS ARE CONDUCTING BIG AVIATION MEET BRYAN MUST BE RECKONED WITH BY CONVENTION

Politicians in Baltimore Are High Up in the Air.

HOPE FOR PEACE; READY FOR FIGHT

All Are Confident That Bird of Victory Is Waiting to Perch on Party Banner, but No One Is Wise Enough to Foretell Outcome of This Convention.

BY SAMUEL G. BLYTHE. (Copyright, 1912.) (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Baltimore, Md., June 24.—Please, sir, buy a ticket to the aviation meet for the benefit of the fresh air fund. It is a fair young thing in the lobby of the Belvedere. "Really, my dear young lady," replied the Democratic national committeeman to whom she made her plea, "really I would like to oblige you, but we do not need the tickets. We are all up in the air as it is."

Now that, of its kind, is a passable joke for a politician. Also it contained a germ of truth. The leaders, the delegates, the alternates, the managers, the managed, the insiders, the outsiders and all of those now in this city spent most of Monday in the air, and not many of them had alighted when the last hand had played "Maryland, My Maryland" for the last time, which was reasonably late in the evening.

All Anxious for Harmony. The proposition seems to be that harmony in the Democratic ranks is a most desirable commodity at this juncture and that nobody present is anxious to wade through seas of blood to get it. Inasmuch as the Democrats are firmly convinced that they are starting something here that will be enthusiastically ratified at the polls in next November, the aversion to doing anything that will interfere with the predicted and desired result.

They do not want to fight, these Democrats, except to secure the inestimable blessing of a peace that shall be continuous enough to be in effect over until March 4 next, when it may be shattered in the rush for places on the payroll. They are certain they will win. They see visions of patronage ahead of them. They have begun to pick out their jobs. It is all over save the mere detail of registering here at the convention the will of the people by the selection, after due deliberation, of the person who shall reside in the White House after Mr. Taft gets through with it, and the mere further details of passing that man along to the people, who will do the triumphant rest at the polls.

Fear Is High Treason. Any Democrat who breathed the fear that the nominee of this convention will not be elected immediately had his license taken away from him and was fined for smoking in the street. That was treason, and high treason at that, when you consider the Democrats have not had a President since Cleveland went out in 1897. Victory, they tell you, is preparing to perch on their banners, and in order that they may easily find the correct perching place that they erected banners on every rampart Baltimore moasts, and have provided a few fine additional ramparts themselves.

There were rumors of war early in the day—war to the hilt of whatever sort of knife Mr. Bryan brought along—and not a few of the Democrats were for it and the ensuing carnage on the broad, patriotic ground that the sooner the warriors are killed off the sooner the devotees of the gentler arts of peace will have an opportunity to lead hesitating delegates one side and show them how urgent it is to be calm and collected in the present contingency. Also, there were rumors of various other kinds. The principal one concerned the getting together of opposing leaders and the mapping out of plans of procedure that shall give no Democrat cause for complaint, and shall urge them to a polls on election day with the proper blarney clapped firmly in their hands.

Heard and Murphy Together. It was veraciously stated that Mr. Hearst and Mr. Murphy are on the verge of an amalgamation that must inevitably result in the early selection of Champ Clark as the convention's candidate. This was the most interesting feature of the day, inasmuch as what Mr. Hearst has heretofore said of Mr. Murphy and what Mr. Murphy, not having the saying facilities of Mr. Hearst, has thought of Mr. Hearst, has not confused to much else than simultaneous attempts at murder when the two statesmen shall meet.

Mr. Hearst appeared at the Belvedere Hotel early in the day, neatly attired in a long black coat, a large black hat and an expression of heavy responsibility. He went to the modest six-room suite occupied by Mr. Bryan, and the two conferred long and earnestly. It

Folly to Try to Whistle Nebraskan Down the Wind.

PROGRESSIVEISM NOW IN THE SADDLE

Everywhere the Radicals Are Confidently Predicting Defeat of Judge Parker, and Another Castigation of National Committee—Virginians Conservative.

BY ALEXANDER FORWARD. Baltimore, Md., June 24.—Militant progressivism is in the saddle to-night. At least, it is making all the noise in every hotel lobby, in the ranks of scores of marching clubs, on every street corner, may be found delegates and onlookers predicting the defeat of Judge Alton B. Parker for temporary chairman and the administration to the national committee of a castigation similar to the thrashing of 1896.

Can't Whistle Him Down. It was folly to try to whistle William Jennings Bryan down the wind. Nothing could be clearer than the mistake of Alfred Henry Lewis, when he said that the people who talk of Bryan's influence are those who are opposed to him. Five minutes in the Belvedere, the Belvedere, the Renner or the Kerner to-night would convince any man with two ears to the contrary. He is a force to be reckoned with. True, there are men who have heretofore followed his leadership who to-day are not in sympathy with his position on the temporary chairmanship. There are others who are not "Bryan men" who are with him this time.

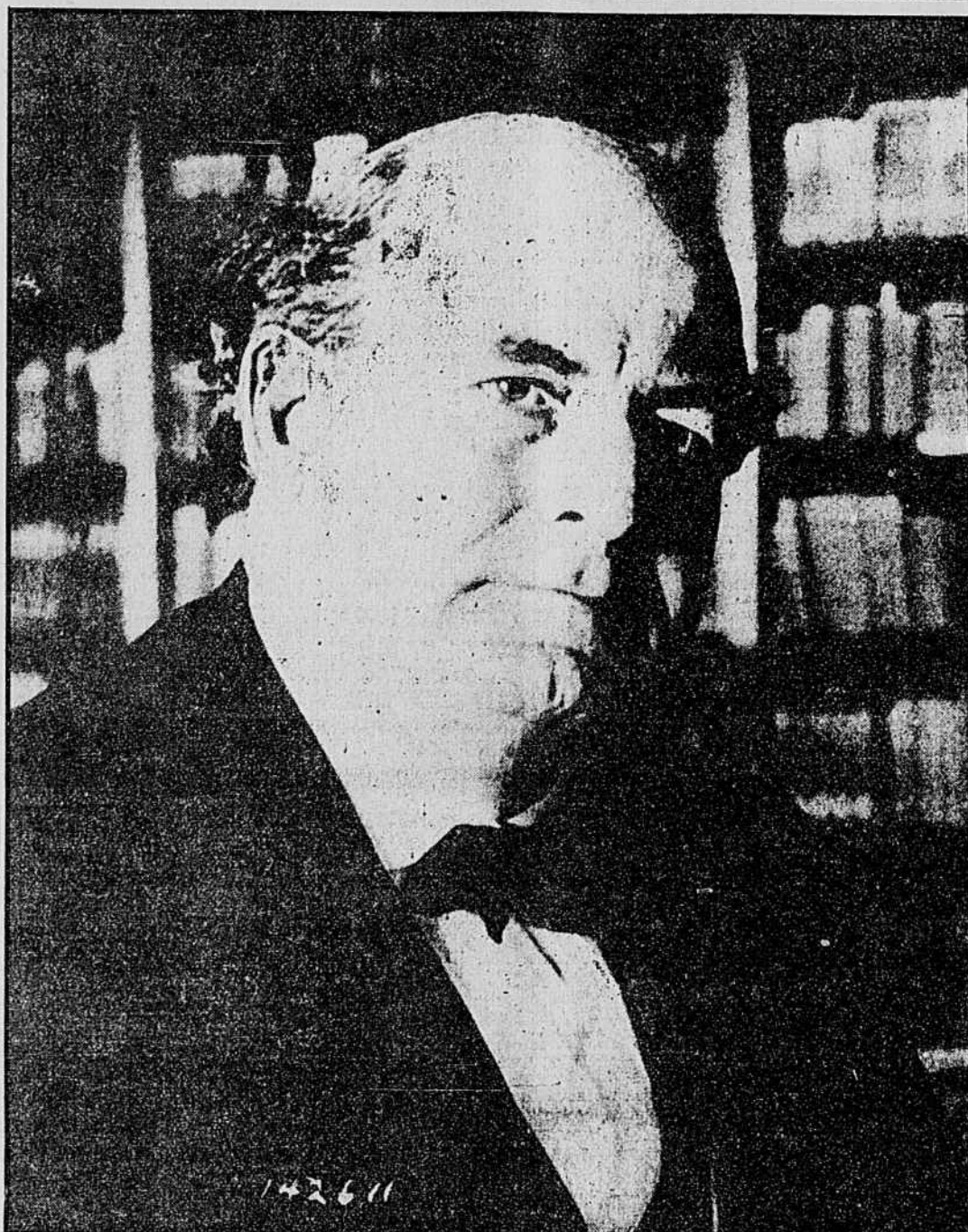
The issue said so. His personality would make any issue come to a head. No matter how to-day's conference had terminated, the platform of the candidates would have made progressive or conservative policies the real matter upon which the delegates voted, at some time or other. But, as a matter of fact, there is no excuse for the issue to come upon a temporary chairmanship. It becomes clearer every moment that National Committeeman Ellipton, of Virginia, was right in the opinion he voiced a few days ago regarding keynote speeches. Why should a committee selected four years ago choose a man to voice the keynote of the campaign to-day? Why a keynote speech any way?

Presidency Minor Matter. In view of the progressive reactionary-Bryan-Murphy-Parker fight, one almost feels he should apologize for mentioning the minor matter of who shall be President. Of course, the earnest seeker for information passes up headquarters bosh and campaign manager twaddle.

Bryan's advent into the forefront makes his personal chances of the nomination much greater than they were last night. Also, the possibility that he may come before the convention as a candidate tends to make the aspirants more ready to listen to possible compromises to prevent his nomination. For there is hardly a party leader of any shade of opinion who wants Mr. Bryan.

Clark has the best chance to-night, for he has unquestionably the most votes. A cleavage may come on the Parker-Bryan dispute which will divide his forces and make for Wilson success, but the Clark strength is undeniable and unmistakable. So is the enthusiasm for him. It will be difficult indeed to put Clark through without Wilson's consent. Therein may come the Commoner's hope for the nomination. Then Bryan's apparent impending success in the initial fight will unquestionably force his name to the front and be in the mind of every delegate when the balloting comes.

Everybody in Good Humor. There is one cheering feature which should not be overlooked. Nearly everybody is in a good humor about it, and the ill feeling at Chicago is not duplicated in Baltimore. To what, even extent of progressivism the convention may go, Virginia will not help. The majority of the delegation is conservative. In spite of all reports to the contrary, the determination of Underwood as long as there is any chance for him is unshaken.



WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN.

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NOMINATION WAS HIS HAD HE BUT ASKED IT

It Was Tendered to Colonel Roosevelt, but on Objectionable Terms.

HE TELLS STORY IN DETAIL

Southern Delegates Offered Their Votes if He Would Stop Fight Against Fraud.

Cleveland, June 24.—A new party from the ground up is the Roosevelt program. After a series of discussions with his lieutenants to-day before leaving Chicago, in which there were several sharp clashes, Colonel Roosevelt decided to cut entirely away from the party with which his whole public career has been identified. His decision was a disappointment to those who favored the organization of what might be considered an independent Republican party with which the various State organizations might co-operate and still maintain, it was hoped, a nominal regularity.

His For the Asking. The Republican nomination for President, Colonel Roosevelt asserted to-night, was his for the asking on the day that President Taft was renominated. He declined to accept it, he said, on the terms under which the offer was made.

On his way back to Oyster Bay the former President gave a glimpse into the secret history of the last day of the convention, when it was apparent that the tide of battle had turned resolutely against him. It was a plan to seize control of the convention at the last moment by a sudden move to overturn the Taft majority and make Roosevelt the nominee. This is the story as he told it:

LIAR AND COWARD MAKE APPEARANCE

Nearly a Fist Fight During Hearing of Rhode Island Contests.

Baltimore, Md., June 24.—The national committee, after a half hour's deliberation hearing the Illinois contest, voted to seat the entire contest—Illinois votes to seat the entire contest—delegation known as the Roger Sullivan delegation, turning down the case brought by the Harrison-Hearst faction. Twenty seats were involved. The decision does not affect the presidential contest, as all the delegates, contestants and onlookers, are for Champ Clark.

A fist fight was narrowly averted before the subcommittee of the national committee which heard the Rhode Island contests. Frank E. Fitzgerald, chairman of the Rhode Island Democratic State Central Committee, one of three men contesting the credentials held by Rhode Island delegates, called John J. Fitzgerald, who was arguing against the contestants a "liar" and a "coward." Fitzgerald started for Fitzgeralds. The latter stripped off his coat and a fist fight was imminent when members of the committee and bystanders separated the pair.

Both later apologized. Spirited argument characterized the arguments in the contest from Illinois in which Mayor Carter H. Harrison and the William Randolph Hearst Democratic faction of Chicago were the contestants against the Roger C. Sullivan faction. The Harrison-Hearst delegates from the Tenth Cook County District and the Seventh and Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth District of Illinois had been selected in regular primary elections, whereas the delegates seated were chosen in the old-fashioned conventions.

Only seventy-eight seats in the whole convention were contested, shortly before midnight the full committee met to hear reports of the subcommittee and decide the cases. In the Rhode Island contests the national committee threw out the contestants instituted by the adherents of Representative O'Shaughnessy. Ten Wilson delegates from South Dakota were given their seats against a contesting Clark delegation. A Pennsylvania contest involving half a vote was settled in favor of the contestants, and the six unopposed delegates from the Philippines were seated in spite of a contest.

FIGHT NOW GOES TO CONVENTION

Judge Parker Indorsed for Temporary Chairman by National Committee.

HE RECEIVES 31 VOTES

Peace Committee Appointed to Prevent Contest on Floor Fails in Its Efforts.

Baltimore, Md., June 24.—Former Judge Alton B. Parker, of New York, was chosen as the candidate for temporary chairman of the Democratic National Convention by the national committee to-night. Parker received 31 votes; Senator-Elect Ollie James, of Kentucky, 20, and Senator O'Gorman, of New York, 2. The vote on the temporary chairmanship was announced as follows:

For Parker—James Weatherly, Alabama; A. J. Michaelson, Arizona; Guy B. Tucker, Arkansas; Nathan Cole, Jr., California; Homer S. Cummings, Connecticut; T. Albert Jennings, Florida; Clark Howell, Georgia; Simeon P. Donnelly, Idaho; Roger C. Sullivan, Illinois; Thomas Taggart, Indiana; Martin J. Wade, Iowa; Grey Woodson, Kentucky; E. L. Jones, Maine; J. Fred C. Talbot, Maryland; Edwin G. Wood, Michigan; C. H. Williams, Mississippi; J. Bruce Kremer, Montana; Eugene E. Reed, New Hampshire; Norman E. Mack, New York; W. T. Brady, Oklahoma; J. M. Guffey, Pennsylvania; George W. Greene, Rhode Island; R. E. L. Mountcastle, Tennessee; R. N. Johnston, Texas; Thomas H. Browne, Vermont; J. Taylor Ellison, Virginia; A. J. Daly, Alaska; Edwin A. Newman, District of Columbia; Gilbert J. Waller, Hawaii; D. M. Field, Porto Rico; member from the Philippines. Total, 31.

For Ollie James—Alva Adams, Colorado; Willard Saulsbury, Delaware; William F. Sapp, Kansas; Robert Ewing, Louisiana; F. B. Lynch, Minnesota; Edward F. Goltra, Missouri; P. L. Hall, Nebraska; John S. Underland, Nevada; Robert S. Hudspeth, New Jersey; Josephus Daniels, North Carolina; William S. Collins, North Dakota; A. A. Jones, New Mexico; Harvey C. Garber, Ohio; W. A. Miller, Oregon; B. R. Tillman, South Carolina (by proxy); E. S. Johnson, South Dakota; Frank K. Nebeker, Utah; W. H. Dunphy, Washington; Joseph E. Davies, Wisconsin.

All Peace Efforts Fail and Commoner Will Carry His Fight Against Parker for Temporary Chairman to Floor When Convention Opens at Noon To-Day.

HE STANDS READY TO LEAD BATTLE IF NO OTHER CANDIDATE IS FOUND

Nebraskan Denounces New York Jurist as Having Been Put Forward by the Predatory Interests Which Defeated the People's Will at Chicago and Now Hope to Overturn Wishes of Progressive Majority at Baltimore—Leaders of Various Presidential Booms Look to Opening Contest With Trepidation—Bryan and Wilson Discussed as Possible Ticket.

What Mr. Bryan Thinks of Judge Parker

"I shall discuss Mr. Parker's fitness for the position to-morrow. It is enough to-night to say that if he does not know whose agent he is he lacks the intelligence necessary for a presiding officer, and if he does know, he does not deserve the support of any man who has the right to call himself a Democrat."—From statement of W. J. Bryan.

Baltimore, Md., June 24.—All hope of averting a fight from the fall of the gavel in the Democratic National Convention vanished to-night when the national committee approved the selection of former Judge Alton B. Parker, of New York, as temporary chairman in defiance of the threat of William J. Bryan to make an issue of the alleged conservatism of Judge Parker as opposed to the progressivism which the distinguished Nebraskan declares should prevail.

An effort was made by the national committee to-day to placate Mr. Bryan, but a conference resulted in complete failure. Mr. Bryan would not recede from the position he had taken, and to-night prepared to make his fight from the floor to-morrow to rally the progressives to his standard in opposition to Judge Parker.

Mr. Bryan announced to-day that if no other good progressive could be prevailed upon to make the race, he would enter the field himself as the opponent of Judge Parker.

Is Dominant Figure of Convention.

The Nebraskan, three times the candidate of his party for the presidency, stood out to-day as the dominant figure in the convention. All contingencies of the future, including the nomination of a presidential candidate, seemed to hinge upon what he should do. The impression continued to be more marked that Mr. Bryan might himself be the ultimate presidential nominee. Some of his friends to-night declared that he would be voted for in the convention whether formally placed in nomination or not, and they expressed the belief that he would win if the voting should go to a fourth or fifth ballot.

In furtherance of their hope of nominating Mr. Bryan, some of his friends, it is said, are bending their energies to preventing a coalition of the Clark and Wilson forces. They are talking of Bryan and Wilson as a possible ticket, and the suggestion is receiving attention in many quarters.

In the event that Mr. Bryan should not be a candidate himself for temporary chairman, it was said he might urge Senator John W. Kern, of Indiana, his running mate of four years ago, for the place. The leaders to-night, however, expected Mr. Bryan to enter the race.

Contest Is Viewed With Trepidation.

The contest over the chairmanship is looked forward to with trepidation by some of the leaders and by the supporters of several of the presidential aspirants. One of the most interesting developments looked for is the stand to be taken by the Champ Clark delegates. A large number of these already have been pledged to support the choice of the national committee, whoever he might be. This action was regarded in the State delegations as distinctly an anti-Bryan move. There has been a long-standing friendship between Mr. Bryan and Speaker Clark. The delegates to the convention to-night are wondering if to-morrow's battle will show a rupture.

It is a coincidence that Mr. Bryan is arraying himself against the only man who has shared with him the presidential nomination of his party since the memorable campaign of 1896—sixteen years ago.

Judge Parker's comparatively wide margin of success in the national committee—31 to 20—was taken by many of the leaders to-night as an indication of defeat for Mr. Bryan. The latter's friends declined to put any such interpretation upon the action of the committee.

Committee Action Expected by Bryan.

Mr. Bryan said: "I had expected it. When Mr. Guffey was seated against the protests of the Democrats of Pennsylvania I learned what I had expected, that a majority of that committee either had no conception of Democracy or was so slavishly under the control of the predatory interests as not to be free to follow their convictions. The reasons which they give are like all reasons given in defense of wrong. They are insincere and are not the reasons that really influence them. The fight will be resumed to-morrow, at which time a progressive will be presented for the convention to vote for, and the line will be drawn so that the delegates can decide whether they will ally themselves with the Belmont-Ryan-Murphy crowd, that overwhelmed the party with defeat eight years ago, and which is in close and continuous copartnership with the crowd that nominated Mr. Taft at Chicago.

"The predatory interests have no politics. They are with the party that serves them. Having enabled a minority of the Republicans to override the will of a majority of Republicans at Chicago, they are now here to enable a minority of the Democrats to override the majority in this convention.

Harmony Talk Too Absurd for Consideration.

"There is not a great exploiting interest that is not represented in the lobbies of the hotel; there is not a corrupting influence in American politics that is not being used, and the delegates to this convention underestimate the intelligence of the men who sent them here if they think that they can go back and deceive them into believing that they supported Mr. Parker from any worthy motive. The talk of harmony is too absurd to deserve consideration. I tried to secure harmony by urging several weeks ago that the commit-

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